

Paoli, PA – A week after visiting a facility in his District of a booming Spanish wind power company, Congressman Joe Sestak continued to reach out to local alternative energy producers to discuss needed investments in the industry. The Congressman toured Sun Technics, which has expanded from a global leader in solar energy to production of wind and other renewable forms, and spoke with executives about the success of the German-based company. — “The development of alternative energy technologies is the long term solution to our dependence on foreign oil and investment in research and production of these resources is also a proven method of revitalizing our economy,” said the Congressman. “In 2006 alone, the renewable energy and efficiency industries generated 8.5 million jobs and nearly \$970 billion in revenue in the United States.”

Sun Technics, which has facilities across the globe, played an important role in providing solar power to Fort Carson in Colorado, where a solar array produces enough electricity for hundreds of homes.. The company customizes solar technologies to suit local conditions and optimize system solutions that satisfy individual needs. Executives briefed the Congressman on the Exelon Power Plant they are currently installing.

Significant investment in alternative energy is a critical part of the comprehensive energy plan established by Congressman Sestak to address high gas prices. The Congressman has worked hard in Washington to promote legislation which supports the development of clean and renewable energy sources, specifically helping to pass through the House the Renewable Energy and Job Creation Act of 2008, which includes \$18 billion in tax incentives for renewable energy production. The legislation includes key provisions for tax credit that would stimulate growth in the solar industry. One measure extends through 2014 the 30% investment tax credit for solar energy property and qualified fuel cell property and the 10% investment tax credit for microturbines, also removing an existing limitation that prevents public utilities from claiming the investment tax credit. A second provision extends the credit for residential solar property for through the end of 2014 and includes residential small wind equipment and geothermal heat pumps as property qualifying for this credit

“By promoting research and use of cellulosic and switchgrass ethanol, wind and solar power, geothermal power, and plug-in hybrid vehicles, among other incentives, the United States can be leader in alternative energy industries,” said Congressman Sestak. “We need to encourage American companies to emulate the great success of businesses like Sun Technics to not only reduce our dependence on foreign oil, but also do so with American resources.”

As part of his efforts toward this goal, the Congressman strongly supported H.R. 6, the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007, which was signed into law late last year. The act implements fuel economy standards of 35 miles per gallon which will save Americans \$700-\$1000 annually at the pump by 2020. In addition, it promotes research and development into alternative energy sources by strengthening solar research, education and training and developing a skilled workforce to install solar energy equipment. The act also requires improved Federal and commercial building efficiency by putting in place “green building” standards.

Born and raised in Delaware County, former 3-star Admiral Joe Sestak served in the Navy for 31 years and now serves as the Representative from the 7th District of Pennsylvania. He led a series of operational commands at sea, including Commander of an aircraft carrier battle group of 30 U.S. and allied ships with over 15,000 sailors and 100 aircraft that conducted operations in Afghanistan and Iraq. After 9/11, Joe was the first Director of “Deep Blue,” the Navy’s anti-terrorism unit that established strategic and operations policies for the “Global War on Terrorism.” He served as President Clinton’s Director for Defense Policy at the National Security Council in the White House, and holds a Ph.D. in Political Economy and Government from Harvard University. According to the office of the House Historian, Joe is the highest-ranking former military officer ever elected to the Congress.